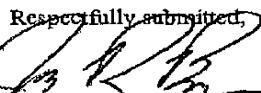


Remarks

Claims 1-38 were examined. Pursuant to a telephone interview of the Examiner on November 4, 2003 by Steve Shear, the Examiner agreed that the amendments of Claim 1, as presented above, clearly overcome the rejections in the Final Office Action. All independent claims have been amended in a way which is thought to include at least the limitations of amended claim 1. Moreover, the proposed amendments are presented to address the rejections issued in the Final Office Action as well as the Advisory Action and, as such, raise no new issues, add no new matter and require no additional searching. Claims 6 and 8 have been canceled. Claim 18 has been canceled in view of the amendment to claim 17; claim 23 has been canceled with its limitations now seen in amended claim 20; claim 35 has been canceled with its limitations now present in amended claim 34; and claim 38 has been canceled in view of the amendment to claim 1. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's comments.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been overcome and that the application is in condition for allowance. Hence, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims under immediate consideration, and passage to issue of the application are solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Steve Shear at 303-661-0901.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay R. Beyer
Reg. No. 39,907